

Australian Bureau of Statistics

6222.0 - Job Search Experience, Australia, July 2013

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Summary

Main Features

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ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience Survey, conducted throughout Australia in July 2013 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

This publication presents information about the experiences of unemployed persons in seeking work, in terms of the steps they have taken to find work and the difficulties they have encountered in finding work. It also presents information about employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months. For this group, information on the steps taken to attain work and current job details are provided.

Additional information is presented about persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months, including steps taken to find work and difficulties in finding work. Further, the survey provides information about owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months including the reasons for starting or purchasing their business.

Demographic information is provided for all of these groups.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

For the July 2013 survey, all data was collected from any responsible adult (ARA) in the household at the time of interview. The ARA responded on behalf of all people in the household who had taken steps to find work. Prior to 2013, information about job search experience and steps taken to find work was obtained via a personal interview with each relevant person in the household. As a result of this change, there has been no observable statistical impact on the data.

From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collection for the LFS. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via face-to-face or telephone interview. From May 2013, the ABS has commenced the expansion of the offer of online collection to each new incoming rotation group. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

A measurement strategy was used to identify impacts on the LFS data. No statistical impact has been identified to date.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Force and Supplementary Survey Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206, email sabour.statistics@abs.gov.au.

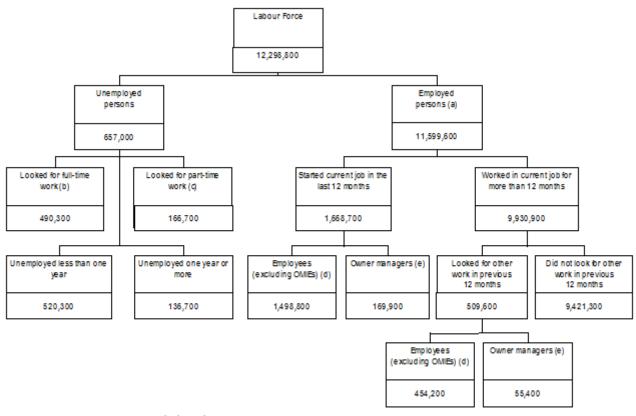
Conceptual Framework

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The following diagram illustrates the conceptual framework for the 2013 Job Search Experience Survey. The Job Search Experience Survey presents three mutually exclusive groups of the labour force as at July 2013:

- unemployed persons (657,000);
- employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months (1.7 million);
 and
- persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months (509,600).



- (a) Excludes 42,166 persons who were contributing family workers.
- (b) Includes persons who looked for both full-time and part-time work.
- (c) Persons who only looked for part-time work.
- (d) Excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises.
- (e) Includes owner managers of incorporated and unincorporated enterprises.

Summary Of Findings

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

OVERVIEW

The July 2013 Job Search Experience Survey found there were 657,000 persons (363,100 males and 293,900 females) who were unemployed (Table 1). Of these unemployed persons:

- 84% had not started a job in the previous 12 months (Table 1);
- 83% of unemployed males were looking for full-time work; and
- 64% of unemployed females were looking for full-time work (Table 3).

In July 2013, there were around 1.7 million job starters (employed persons who had started their current job in the previous 12 months). Of these job starters:

- 61% searched for work for less than 1 year before starting current job;
- 34% did not look for work:
- 64% were working full-time;
- 27% were aged 25-34 years; and
- 21% were aged 45 years and over (Table 10).

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

Duration of unemployment

The majority (79%) of persons unemployed in July 2013 had been unemployed for less than one year. The percentage of unemployed persons who had been unemployed for one year or more increased by 1.2 percentage points between 2012 and 2013 (19.6% and 20.8% respectively). The proportion of unemployed persons who were unemployed for two years or more was 10% in 2013. The median duration of current period of unemployment as at July 2013 was 17 weeks compared to 14 weeks from 2010 to 2012 (Table 2).

Difficulties in finding work

In July 2013, the most commonly reported main difficulty in finding work for unemployed persons was too many applicants for available jobs (17%), and no vacancies in line of work (9%).

The difficulties in finding work for unemployed persons varied for age, sex, duration of unemployment and the type of work for which they were looking (full-time or part-time).

For long-term unemployed persons (persons unemployed for 1 year or more), the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were:

- too many applicants for available jobs (16%);
- own ill health or disability (13%); and
- considered too old by employers (13%).

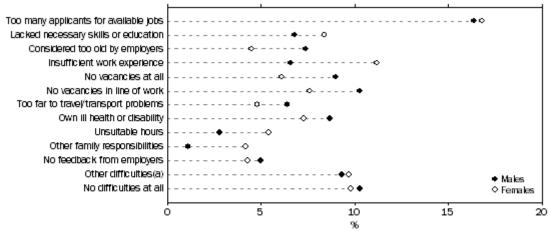
For persons who had been unemployed for less than 1 year the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were:

- too many applicants for available jobs (17%);
- no vacancies in line of work (10%); and
- insufficient work experience (9%).

There were 66,400 unemployed persons who reported that they had no difficulties at all in finding work. Of those reporting no difficulties, 66% had been unemployed for less than eight weeks (Table 7).

The most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work for persons aged 15-19 years were too many applicants for available jobs (17%) and insufficient work experience (16%) whereas, the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work for persons aged 45 years and over were considered too old by employers (20%) and too many applicants for available jobs (17%).

Unemployed persons, Main difficulty in finding work - By sex



(a) Includes people who reported that they were considered too young by employers, language difficulties, difficulties with finding child care, and difficulties because of ethnic background.

For unemployed males, the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were:

- too many applicants for available jobs (16%); and
- no vacancies in line of work (10%).

For unemployed females, the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were:

- too many applicants for available jobs (17%); and
- insufficient work experience (11%) (Table 8).

All steps taken to find work

In July 2013, 75% of unemployed persons were looking for full-time or full-time and part-time work (Table 2).

The most common steps taken to find work (both full-time and part-time) reported by unemployed persons were:

- looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet (84%);
- wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work (84%);
- answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet (68%); and
- looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper (66%). (Table 6).

Older and younger unemployed

In July 2013, 35% (232,300) of unemployed persons were aged 15-24 years compared to 24% (156,200) of unemployed persons who were aged 45 years and over (Table 5).

The most common steps taken to find work reported by those aged 15-24 years were looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet (85%) and wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work (82%). The most common steps reported by those aged 45 years and over were wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work (86%) and looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet (79%) (Table 6).

ALL JOB STARTERS

In July 2013 there were 1.7 million job starters (employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months). Of these job starters 90% were employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs)) (Table 10).

EMPLOYEE JOB STARTERS (EXCLUDING OMIES)

In July 2013 there were 1.5 million employee¹ job starters, of whom 45% did not have paid leave entitlements in their current job. Of those without paid leave entitlements:

- 46% were aged 15-24 years;
- 19% were aged 45 years and over; and
- 51% were females.

The majority (89%) of employee¹ job starters had worked in a job for two weeks or more before. Of these job starters who had worked before:

- 41% were out of work prior to starting their current job; and
- 29% were aged 25-34 years (Table 13).

All steps taken to attain a job

Of employee¹ job starters, the most commonly reported step to attain a job was by having an interview with an employer (65%). For those who had worked before and were out of work prior to starting a job, 68% reported having an interview with an employer, compared to 62% who had worked before and changed employer to start a job.

Over a quarter (26%) of employee¹ job starters who changed employers did not take steps to attain a job, compared to 19% who had worked before and were out of work prior to starting a job, and 19% who attained their first job. Those who were out of work prior to starting a job were also more likely to be registered with Centrelink as a job seeker (18% compared to 5% who changed employers and 10% who were first job holders).

Those who were out of work prior to starting a job or first job holders were more likely to contact friends or relatives to attain a job (36% and 35% respectively) compared to those who changed employers (26%) (Table 14).

Around 156,000 employee¹ job starters had either considered or had actually started or purchased a business in the last 12 months. Of these, 28,900 had started or purchased a business but had not continued with it (Table 11).

OWNER MANAGERS

In July 2013, there were 169,900 owner managers² who started their current business in the previous 12 months. The most common main reason reported for starting or purchasing a business were:

25% wanted to be their own boss;

- 24% wanted financial gain; and
- 13% wanted control over working conditions (Table 11).

PERSONS EMPLOYED FOR MORE THAN A YEAR IN THEIR CURRENT JOB AND LOOKED FOR WORK

In July 2013, there were 509,600 persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months. Of these:

- 52% were males;
- 59% were full-time workers:
- 26% were aged 25-34 years; and
- 89% were employees (excluding OMIEs).

The most common reasons for looking for work while still employed were:

- wanted better pay (36% males and 32% females); and
- wanted a change (29% males and 32% females)
- 30% of employees aged 15-24 years wanted more hours (63% of whom were females); and
- 40% of employees aged 35-44 years wanted better pay (52% of whom were males) (Table 15).

END NOTE

- 1. Excludes owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs).
- 2. Includes owner managers of incorporated and unincorporated enterprises.

About this Release

Provides estimates of unemployed persons classified by difficulties in finding work, duration of current period of unemployment, active steps taken to find work, whether looking for full-time or part-time work, educational attainment, and number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months. Estimates can also be cross-classified by demographic information such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth.

Also provides estimates of employed persons who were formerly jobseekers but were now (as at the survey reference period) employed and were successful in securing that job in the previous 12 months. Estimates can also be cross-classified by demographic information such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from information collected in the Job Search Experience Survey (JSE) survey conducted throughout Australia in July 2013 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 Information about survey design, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also applies to supplementary surveys, can be found in the publication Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in the monthly LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

SCOPE

- **4** The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following people:
 - members of the permanent defence forces:
 - certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from the Census and estimated populations;
 - overseas residents in Australia; and
 - members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).
- **5** Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.
- **6** This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded persons living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in very remote parts of Australia.

7 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, single job holders who were contributing family workers are excluded from this survey.

COVERAGE

8 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in July 2013. In

the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

- **9** Supplementary surveys are not conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample.
- **10** The sample for JSE is a subsample of 35,129 private dwelling households and special dwelling units included in the ABS monthly LFS in July 2013. The final sample on which estimates are based is composed of 6,592 persons aged 15 years and over who, in July 2013, were:
 - unemployed in July 2013;
 - employed in July 2013 who started their current job in the previous 12 months; and
 - employed for more than a year who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

- **11** Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:
 - Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information, see the Technical Note.
 - Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and effective processing procedures.

SEASONAL FACTORS

12 The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month (July) and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

- **13** Country of birth data are classified according to the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), 2011 (cat. no. 1269.0).
- 14 Occupation data are classified according to ANZSCO Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1, 2009 (cat. no. 1220.0).
- 15 Industry data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0) (cat. no. 1292.0).
- 16 Educational attainment data are classified according to the Australian Standard

Classification of Education (ASCED) (cat. no. 1272.0). See Appendix 1 for more information.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

17 Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs)) have been classified as 'With paid leave entitlements' if they were entitled to paid sick leave and/or paid holiday leave. In all other cases, employees have been classified as 'Without paid leave entitlements'.

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

- 18 The Labour Force Survey estimates and estimates from the supplementary surveys, are calculated in such a way as to sum to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. Generally, revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS following the final rebasing of population estimates to the latest five-yearly Census of Population and Housing, or when the need arises. However, the estimates from the supplementary surveys are not normally revised to reflect the latest benchmarks.
- **19** From February 2009 Labour Force Estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Revisions were applied to the LFS population benchmarks in December 2012 and May 2013 to take into account the latest available population estimates. The latest revision undertaken in May 2013 is not reflected in the estimates presented in Job Search Experience, July 2013 (cat. no. 6222.0).
- **20** Changes to the LFS population benchmarks impact primarily on the magnitude of the Labour Force Survey estimates (i.e. employment and unemployment) that are directly related to the underlying size of the population. For more details on population benchmarks, see the Explanatory Notes in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) and for details about the revisions made, see the articles in the November 2012 and September 2010 issues of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

21 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the monthly LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

- **22** From July 2004, a change has been made to the category 'considered too young or too old by employers' for the data items 'all difficulties in finding work' and 'main difficulty in finding work'. The category has been split into 'considered too young by employers' and 'considered too old by employers'. Data for 'considered too young by employers' are not published separately in all relevant tables, but are available on request.
- **23** The JSE supplementary survey was redesigned in 2011 to broaden the scope of existing JSE populations and to introduce two new population groups:
 - Owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months; and

- Persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.
- **24** In conjunction with these changes, a number of new data items are now presented in this publication and/or available on request. For more information see Appendix 1: Job Search Experience Survey Redesign in the July 2011 edition of Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0).
- **25** The changes have resulted in a break in series across all populations. Care should be exercised when comparing the estimates for 2011, 2012 and 2013 with previous years.
- **26** See Quality Declaration for more information on changes made in 2011 as well as in previous surveys.
- **27** For the July 2013 survey, all data was collected from any responsible adult (ARA) in the household at the time of interview. The ARA responded on behalf of all people in the household who had taken steps to find work. Prior to 2013, information about job search experience and steps taken to find work was obtained via a personal interview with each relevant person in the household. As a result of this change, there has been no observable statistical impact on the data.
- **28** From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collection for the Labour Force Survey. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via face-to-face or telephone interview. From May 2013, the ABS has commenced the expansion of the offer of online collection to each new incoming rotation group. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0).
- **29** A measurement strategy was used to identify impacts on the LFS data. No statistical impact has been identified to date.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

30 JSE was first conducted in July 2002. Results of similar surveys on the job search experience of unemployed people conducted in July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991, and annually from July 1992 to July 2001 were published in various issues of Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0). Information on people who had started work for an employer for wages or salary during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week was collected in June 1986 and two-yearly from July 1990 to July 2000 and was published in Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6245.0).

NEXT SURVEY

31 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in February 2014.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

32 ABS surveys draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much

appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the Census and Statistics Act, 1905.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

33 ABS publications which may also be of interest include:

- Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0);
- Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0);
- Labour Force Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6206.0);
- Labour Mobility, Australia (cat. no. 6209.0);
- Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001);
- Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6220.0); and
- Underemployed Workers, Australia (cat. no. 6265.0).

34 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the **Statistics Page** on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily **Release Advice** on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Active steps taken to find work

Active steps taken by unemployed persons in their search for work during the current period of unemployment include:

- wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work;
- answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper;
- answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet;
- answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards;
- had an interview;
- contacted friends or relatives;
- advertised or tendered for work;
- registered with a Job Services Australia provider; or
- registered with other employment agency.

All difficulties in finding work

All difficulties in finding work experienced by unemployed persons during the current period of unemployment.

All steps taken to find work

All steps taken by unemployed persons in their search for work during the current period of unemployment.

All steps taken to attain a job

All steps taken to attain a job by persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months. Refers to steps taken to attain a job, not necessarily the current job.

Bachelor Degree or above

Bachelor Degree or above includes qualifications at the Postgraduate Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level and Bachelor Degree level.

Centrelink

Centrelink is a statutory authority responsible for delivering a range of Commonwealth Government services, including the registration of persons for job search assistance and income support.

Certificate not further defined

Survey responses are coded to Certificate not further defined (n.f.d.) when there is not enough information to code them to Certificate I, II, III or IV in the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001 (cat. no. 1272.0), Level of Education classification.

Contributing family workers

Persons who work without pay in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.

Current job

A job that a person is currently working in and has lasted, or is likely to last, for a period of two weeks or more. For persons who have commenced more than one job in the previous 12 months, it is the job most recently started.

Duration of current period of unemployment

The period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Duration of looking for work before current job

The number of weeks or years that employed persons were looking for work before being offered their current job or starting their own business. For employed persons who had worked before, it includes any time they were looking for work before leaving their previous employer.

Employed

Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

 worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or

- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Employee (excluding OMIEs) job starters

Persons, excluding those who operate their own incorporated enterprise with or without employees, who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind and started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Employees

Persons who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or persons who operate their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employers

Persons who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engage independently in a profession or trade, and hire one or more employees.

Employment type in current job

Classifies employed persons according to the following categories on the basis of their current job:

- Employees (excluding OMIEs);
 - With paid leave entitlements;
 - Without paid leave entitlements;
- Owner managers of incorporated enterprises;
- Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Employment type in main job

For this survey, employment type in main job classifies employed persons according to the following categories on the basis of their main job (that is, the job in which the most hours were usually worked):

- Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises OMIEs);
- Owner managers of incorporated enterprises;
- Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises;

Contributing family workers.

First job ever held lasting two weeks or more

Refers to employees (excluding OMIEs) who had never worked for two weeks or more before starting their current job.

Full-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and others who, although usually working fewer than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Had an interview with an employer

Includes face-to-face and phone interviews.

Had worked before

Refers to employees (excluding OMIEs) who had worked before and were either out of work or changed their employer before starting their current job.

Incorporated enterprise

An enterprise which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company).

Industry

An industry is a group of businesses or organisations that undertake similar economic activities to produce both goods and services. In this publication, industry refers to ANZSIC Division as classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0).

Job Network/Job Services employment agency

In July 2009, the Job Network was replaced by Job Services Australia. The Job Network/Job Services Australia is a national network of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment placement services to the community. Job seekers who are registered with Centrelink for job search assistance are able to contact a Job Services Australia provider in their area to receive this service.

Job starters

Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Left a job

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and who left that job voluntarily.

Level of highest educational attainment

Level of highest educational attainment identifies the highest achievement a person has

attained in any area of study. It is not a measurement of the relative importance of different fields of study but a ranking of qualifications and other educational attainments regardless of the particular area of study or the type of institution in which the study was undertaken. See Appendix 1 for an explanation of how highest level is derived.

Level of highest non-school qualification

Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of preprimary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the Postgraduate Degree level, Masters Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level, Bachelor Degree level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels and not further defined. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.

Long-term unemployed

Persons whose duration of current period of unemployment is 12 months or more.

Lost a job

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and who left that job involuntarily.

Main difficulty in finding work

The main difficulty in finding work experienced during the current period of unemployment.

Main English-speaking countries

The list of main English-speaking countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant or official language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and the United States of America.

Main job

The job in which most hours are usually worked.

Mean duration of current period of unemployment

The duration obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.

Median duration of current period of unemployment

The duration which divides unemployed persons into two groups of equal size, one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the mid point, and the other, persons whose duration is below it.

Number of offers of employment

The number of separate offers of employment received during the current period of unemployment.

Number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months

The number of times persons reported being out of work and looking for a job during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week.

Occupation

An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their title and tasks, skill level and skill specialisation which are grouped together for the purposes of classification. In this publication occupation refers to Major Group as defined by ANZSCO - Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1, 2009 (cat. no. 1220.0).

Own account workers

Persons who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engaged independently in a profession or trade, and hired no employees.

Owner managers

Persons who work in their own business, with or without employees, whether or not the business is an incorporated enterprise. Comprises owner managers of incorporated enterprises and owner managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIE)

Persons who work in their own incorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company). These persons are classified as employees under 'status in employment'.

Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises (OMUE)

Persons who operate their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. Includes those engaged independently in a trade or profession. These persons are classified as employers under 'status in employment' if their business has employees, or own account worker if they do not.

Part-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked fewer than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and who either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Preferred number of hours

The number of hours unemployed persons would like to work each week.

Reasons for turning down job offers

Classifies reasons for turning down job offers in current period of unemployment according to the following categories:

- Unsuitable Job Conditions
 - Unsatisfactory pay/conditions
 - Not in locality or line of work

- Hours unsuitable
- Unwilling to move state/city
- Too far to travel
- Personal Reasons
 - Own short-term illness or injury
 - · Own long-term health condition or disability
 - Pregnancy
 - Affect welfare payments/pension may be affected
 - Returned to study
- Family Reasons
 - Childcare
 - Ill health of other than self
- Other
- Waiting to start another job/starting new business
- Other reasons
- Did not know

Status in employment

Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers.

Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months

The total number of weeks a person has been both out of work and looking for work at the same time during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Unemployed looking for full-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for full-time work and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were not available for work in the reference week because they were waiting to start a new full-time job.

Unemployed looking for part-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for part-time work only and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were not available for work in the reference week because they were waiting to start a new part-time job.

Usually worked full-time hours

Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs).

Usually worked part-time hours

Employed persons who usually worked fewer than 35 hours a week (in all jobs).

Whether had prior knowledge that job was available

Whether employed persons knew that a job was available with their current employer before making an approach to that employer for a job.

Whether had ever worked for two weeks or more

Whether unemployed persons had previously held a job lasting two weeks or more.

Whether out of work prior to starting job

Whether employed persons were not employed immediately prior to starting their current job.

Whether preferred to work more hours than usually worked

Whether employed persons who usually worked part-time hours, preferred to work more hours.

With paid leave entitlements

The entitlement of employees (excluding OMIEs) to either paid holiday leave or paid sick leave (or both) in their current job. Persons employed in their own business or who were contributing family workers were not asked questions about paid leave entitlements. For more information, see paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

Without paid leave entitlements

Employees (excluding OMIEs) who were not entitled to, or did not know whether they were entitled to, paid holiday leave and paid sick leave in their current job. For more information, see paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

'000 thousand

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

ABSCQ Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications

ANZSCO Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations

ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification

ARA any responsible adult

ASCED Australian Standard Classification of Education

JSE Job Search Experience Survey

LFS Labour Force Survey n.f.d. not further defined

OMIE owner manager of incorporated enterprise

RSE relative standard error

SACC Standard Australian Classification of Countries

SE standard error

wks weeks

Classification of education (Appendix)

APPENDIX 1 CLASSIFICATION OF EDUCATION

CLASSIFICATION OF EDUCATION

In 2001, the ABS Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ) (cat. no. 1262.0) was replaced by the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (cat. no. 1272.0). The ASCED is a national standard classification which can be applied to all sectors of the Australian education system including schools, vocational education and training and higher education. ASCED replaces a number of classifications previously used in administrative and statistical systems, including the ABSCQ. The ASCED comprises two classifications: Level of Education and Field of Education.

Level of Highest Educational Attainment can be derived from information on Highest Year of School Completed and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification. The derivation process determines which of the 'non-school' or 'school' attainments will be regarded as the highest. Usually the higher ranking attainment will be self-evident, but in some cases some Secondary Education is regarded, for the purposes of obtaining a single measure, as higher than some Certificate level attainments.

The following decision table is used to determine which of the responses to questions on Highest Year of School Completed (coded to ASCED Broad Level 6) and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification (coded to ASCED Broad Level 5) will be regarded as the highest. It is emphasised that this table was designed for the purpose of obtaining a single value for the output variable Level of Highest Educational Attainment and is not intended to convey any other originality.

	Decision Table: Level of Highest Educational Attainment								
ASCED LEVEL OF EDUCATION CODES	Certificate n.f.d. (500)	Certificate III or IV n.f.d. (510)	Certificate IV (511) Certificate III or II n.f.d. (521) (521)		Certificate I (524)				
Secondary Education n.f.d. (600)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or Vir.l.gl.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I		
Senior Secondary Education n.f.d. (610)	Senior Secondary n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Senior Secondary n.f.d.	Senior Secondary n.f.d.	Senior Secondary n.f.d.		
Year 12 (611)	Year 12	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12		
Year 11 (613)	Year 11	Certificate III or Min.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 11	Year 11	Year 11		
Junior Secondary Education n.f.d. (620)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I		
Year 10 (621)	Year 10	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 10	Certificate II	Year 10		
Year 9 (622)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I		
Year 8 (623)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I		
Year 7 (624)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I		

The decision table is also used to rank the information provided in a survey about the qualifications and attainments of a single individual. It does not represent any basis for comparison between differing qualifications. For example, a person whose Highest Year of School Completed was Year 12, and whose Level of Highest Non-school Qualification was a Certificate III, would have those responses crosschecked on the decision table and would as a result have their Level of Highest Educational Attainment output as Certificate III. However, if the same person answered 'Certificate n.f.d.' to the highest non-school qualification question, without offering any further detail, it would be crosschecked against Year 12 on the decision table as 'Certificate not further defined'. The output would then be 'Year 12'. The decision table, therefore, does not necessarily imply that one qualification is 'higher' than the other.

Populations and Data Items list (Appendix)

APPENDIX 2 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Job Search Experience Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are also available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the people in the survey to whom the data relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these

are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Country of birth (2)).

For more information about ABS data available on request, contact National Information and Referral Service in Canberra on 1300 135 070 or via email to <cli>client.services@abs.gov.au>, or contact Labour Force and Supplementary Survey Section on (02) 6252 7206 or via email to <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Population 1

Unemployed persons.

Population 2

Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Population 3

Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Population 4

Owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months.

Population 5

Data items

Persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

Populations

_		- opulations
1	State or territory of usual residence New South Wales Victoria Queensland South Australia Western Australia Tasmania Northern Territory Australian Capital Territory	All
2	Area of usual residence State capital city Balance of state/territory	All
3	Region of usual residence Standard labour force dissemination regions	All
4	Sex Males Females	All
5	Social marital status Married Not married	All

Family member	
Husband, wife or partn	
With dependa	
Without deper	ndants
Lone parent	
With dependa	
Without deper	ndants
Dependent student	
Non-dependent child	
Other family person	
Non-family member	
Lone person Not living alone	
Relationship not determined	
7A Country of birth and period of arrival	All
Born in Australia	ΔII
Born overseas Arrived before 1971	
Arrived 1971-1980	
Arrived 1971-1990 Arrived 1981-1990	
Arrived 1991-2000	
Arrived 2001-2010	
Arrived 2011 to survey	date of
interview	
7B Country of birth (1)	All
Born in Australia	7 111
Born overseas	
Born in main English-s	peaking
countries	J
Born in other than mair	n English-
speaking countries	•
Inadequately described	
7C Country of birth (2)	All
* * *	
Born in Australia	,
	<i>7</i> w
Born in Australia Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica	
Born overseas	
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern	a Europe
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi	a Europe
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia	a Europe
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia	a Europe iddle East
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A	a Europe iddle East
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas	a Europe iddle East
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa	a Europe iddle East Asia
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years)	a Europe iddle East
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19	a Europe iddle East Asia
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24	a Europe iddle East Asia
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Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern I North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44	a Europe iddle East Asia
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54	a Europe iddle East Asia
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59	a Europe iddle East Asia
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59 60-64	a Europe iddle East Asia
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Born overseas Oceania and Antarctical North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Missouth-East Asial North-East Asial North-East Asial Southern and Central Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59 60-64 65 and over Note: Age collected in single years 1 child 2 children 3 children	Europe iddle East Asia All
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59 60-64 65 and over Note: Age collected in single years 1 child 2 children 3 children 4 children	Europe iddle East Asia All
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59 60-64 65 and over Note: Age collected in single years 1 child 2 children 3 children 4 children 5 children	Europe iddle East Asia All
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern I North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59 60-64 65 and over Note: Age collected in single years 1 child 2 children 3 children 4 children 5 children 5 children 6 or more children	Europe iddle East Asia All ars. 15 years All
Born overseas Oceania and Antarctica North-West Europe Southern and Eastern North Africa and the Mi South-East Asia North-East Asia Southern and Central A Americas Sub-Saharan Africa 8 Age group (years) 15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-59 60-64 65 and over Note: Age collected in single years 1 child 2 children 3 children 4 children 5 children	Europe iddle East Asia All ars. 15 years All

Relationship in household

All

		Postgraduate Degree Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate	
		Bachelor Degree Advanced Diploma/Diploma Certificate III/IV	
		Certificate I/II Certificate not further defined	
		Year 12 Year 11	
		Year 10 or below	
		Other education	
		Level not determined No educational attainment	
11	Level of	highest non-school qualification	1,2,3,4
		With a non-school qualification	_,_,-,
		Postgraduate Degree	
		Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate	
		Bachelor Degree	
		Advanced Diploma/Diploma	
		Certificate III/IV	
		Certificate I/II Certificate not further defined	
		Level not determined	
		Without a non-school qualification	
12	Highest	year of school completed	1,2,3,4
		Year 12	
		Year 11 Year 10	
		Year 9	
		Year 8 or below	
		Never attended school	
13		non-school qualification and whether tion obtained overseas or within Australia	1,2,3,4
	quaiiica	Born in Australia	
		Born overseas	
		With a non-school qualification	
		Qualification obtained	
		overseas Qualification obtained in	
		Australia	
		Without a non-school qualification	4004
144	Number	of jobs started in the previous 12 months	1,2,3,4
		None One	
		Two	
		Three or more	
14E	Number	of jobs lasting two weeks or more started in	1,2,3,4
	trie previ	ious 12 months None	
		One	
		Two	
1 -	All stans	Three or more	105
15	All Steps	taken to find work/attain a job Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an	1,3,5
		employer for work	
		Answered an advertisement for a job in a	
		newspaper	
		Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
		Answered an advertisement for a job on	
		noticeboards	
		Had an interview with an employer Contacted friends or relatives	
		Advertised or tendered for work	

		Registered with a Job Services Australia	
		provider	
		Registered with other employment agency	
		Checked with a Job Services Australia provider	
		Checked with other employment agency	
		Looked at advertisements for jobs in a	
		newspaper	
		Looked at advertisements for jobs on the	
		Internet	
		Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards	
		Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
		Other steps Did not take steps to find work/attain a job	
		Note: Multiple response category. Persons	
1.0	\	may appear in more than one category.	1
Τ0	wnetner	looked for full-time or part-time work	1
		Looked for full-time work Looked for part-time work	
17	Droforro	d number of hours	1
Τ,	riciciied	1-15	_
		16-29	
		30-34	
		35-39	
		40	
		41-44	
		45-48 49 or more	
		Did not know	
		Note: Collected in single hours.	
18		of current period of unemployment	1
		Under 1 year	
		1 and under 4 weeks	
		4 and under 8 weeks	
		8 and under 13 weeks	
		13 and under 26 weeks 26 and under 39 weeks	
		39 and under 52 weeks	
		1 year and over	
		1 and under 2 years	
		2 years and over	
19	Whether job seeke	has been registered with Centrelink as a er	1
		Has been registered with Centrelink as a	
		job seeker	
		Has not been registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
204	All stens	taken to find work	1
		Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an	_
		employer for work	
		Answered an advertisement for a job in a	
		newspaper	
		Answered an advertisement for a job on the	
		Answered an advertisement for a job on	
		noticeboards	
		Had an interview with an employer	
		Contacted friends or relatives	
		Advertised or tendered for work	
		Registered with a Job Services Australia	
		provider Pagistared with other ampleyment agency	
		Registered with other employment agency Checked with a Job Services Australia	
		provider	
		Checked with other employment agency	
		-	

Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker Other steps Did not take steps to find work Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category. 20BActive steps taken to find work 1 Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards Had an interview with an employer Contacted friends or relatives Advertised or tendered for work Registered with a Job Services Australia provider Registered with other employment agency Took no active steps Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category. Active steps taken to find work and whether has 20Cbeen registered with a Job Services Australia 1 provider Has been registered with a Job Services Australia provider Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet Had an interview with an employer Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards Contacted friends or relatives Advertised or tendered for work Took no active steps Has not been registered with a Job Services Australia provider Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category. Whether has been registered with a Job Services ΑII Australia provider Has been registered with a Job Services Australia provider Has not been registered with a Job Services Australia provider 21A Number of offers of employment in the current period 1 of unemployment None One Two Three or more Whether turned down job offers (in current period of 1 unemployment) Turned down offers Had not turned down offers

Had not received offers		
21C All reasons for turning down job offers (in current	1	
period of unemployment)	1	
Unsuitable job conditions:		
Unsatisfactory pay/conditions		
Not in locality or line of work		
Hours unsuitable		
Other unsuitable job conditions		
Personal reasons		
Family reasons		
Other reasons		
Had not turned down offers		
Had not received offers		
Note: Multiple response category. Persons		
may appear in more than one category.		
Main reason for turning down job offers (in current	1	
penod of unemployment)	-	
Unsuitable job conditions:		
Unsatisfactory pay/conditions		
Not in locality or line of work		
Hours unsuitable		
Other unsuitable job conditions		
Personal reasons		
Family reasons		
Other reasons		
Had not turned down offers		
Had not received offers		
22A All difficulties in finding work		1
Too many applicants for available jobs		
Lacked necessary skills or education		
Considered too young by employers		
Considered too old by employers		
Insufficient work experience		
No vacancies at all		
No vacancies in line of work		
Too far to travel/transport problems		
Own ill health or disability		
Language difficulties		
Unsuitable hours		
Difficulties with finding child care		
Other family responsibilities Difficulties because of ethnic background		
No feedback from employers		
Other difficulties		
No difficulties at all		
Note: Multiple response category. Persons may	annear in more than one category	
22B Main difficulty in finding work	appear in more than one category.	1
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		1
Too many applicants for available jobs		
Lacked necessary skills or education		
Considered too young by employers		
Considered too old by employers Insufficient work experience		
No vacancies at all		
No vacancies at all No vacancies in line of work		
Too far to travel/transport problems		
Own ill health or disability		
Language difficulties		
Unsuitable hours		
Difficulties with finding child care		
Other family responsibilities		
Difficulties because of ethnic background		
No feedback from employers		
Other difficulties		
No difficulties at all		
23 Number of spells of looking for work in the previous	us 12 months	1

One

	IWO	
	Three or more	
	Did not look for work	_
24	Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months	1
	Under 2 weeks	
	2 and under 4 weeks	
	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 13 weeks	
	13 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 39 weeks 39 and under 52 weeks	
	52 weeks	
25	Whether had ever worked for two weeks or more	1
25		т
	Had previously worked	
	Last job less than 2 years ago Last job 2 years or more ago	
	Had never worked	
26	Status in employment of last job	1
20	Last job less than 2 years ago	_
	Employee (including OMIEs)	
	Employer (modaling OMILS)	
	Own account worker	
	Contributing family worker	
	Unpaid voluntary worker	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
27	Occupation of last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Managers	
	Professionals	
	Technicians and trades workers	
	Community and personal service workers	
	Clerical and administrative workers	
	Sales workers	
	Machinery operators and drivers	
	Labourers Lippoid voluntary workers	
	Unpaid voluntary workers Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
28	Industry of last job	1
20	Last job less than 2 years ago	_
	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	
	Mining	
	Manufacturing	
	Electricity, gas, water and waste services	
	Construction	
	Wholesale trade	
	Retail trade	
	Accommodation and food services	
	Transport, postal and warehousing	
	Information media and telecommunications	
	Financial and insurance services	
	Rental, hiring and real estate services	
	Professional, scientific and technical services	
	Administrative and support services Public administration and safety	
	Education and training	
	Health care and social assistance	
	Arts and recreation services	
	Other services	
	Unpaid voluntary workers	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
29	Whether worked full-time or part-time in last job	1
	Worked full-time	

	Worked part-time	
	Had never worked	
30	Duration of last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Less than 1 year	
	2 and under 4 weeks	
	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 52 weeks	
	1 and under 2 years	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	2 and under 5 years	
	5 years and over	
	Unpaid voluntary workers	
04	Had never worked	4
31	Reason for ceasing last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Lost a job	
	Laid off or retrenched	
	Job was temporary or seasonal	
	Own ill health or disability Own business closed down for economic reasons	
	Left a job	
	Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
	Holiday job/returned to studies	
	Other reason	
	Unpaid voluntary worker	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
32	Whether had job to go to lasting two weeks or more	1
	Had a job to go to	-
	Did not have a job to go to	
33	Status in employment in current job	2,3,4
00	Employees (including OMIEs)	2,0,4
	Employers	
	Own account workers	
34	Employment type in main job	2,3,4,5
04	Employees (excluding OMIEs)	۷,5,7,5
	Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	
	Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	
	Contributing family workers	
35	Employment type in current job	2,3,4
33	Employees (excluding OMIEs)	2,5,4
	With paid leave entitlements	
	Without paid leave entitlements	
	Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	
	Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	
	Contributing family workers	
36	Month started current job	2,3,4
00	July 2012	2,0,4
	August 2012	
	September 2012	
	October 2012	
	November 2012	
	December 2012	
	January 2013	
	February 2013	
	March 2013	
	April 2013	
	May 2013	
	June 2013	
	July 2013	
37	Duration of looking for work before current job	2,3,4
	Less than 1 year	
	1 and under 4 weeks	

	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 13 weeks	
	13 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 52 weeks	
	1 and under 2 years 2 and under 5 years	
	5 years and over	
	Did not look for work	
	Note: Available in single weeks/years.	
38	Occupation of current job	2,3,4
	Managers	
	Professionals	
	Technicians and trades workers	
	Community and personal service workers	
	Clerical and administrative workers	
	Sales workers Machinery operators and drivers	
	Machinery operators and drivers Labourers	
39	Full-time or part-time status of current employment	2,3,4,5
00	Full-time worker	2,5,4,5
	Part-time worker	
40	Whether preferred to work more hours than usually worked	2,3,4
	Usually worked part-time hours	_,0, .
	Preferred to work more hours	
	Did not prefer to work more hours	
	Did not know	
	Usually worked full-time hours	
41	Whether had paid leave entitlements in current job	3
	With paid leave entitlements	
40	Without paid leave entitlements	0
42	Whether entitled to paid sick leave in current job	3
	Entitled to paid sick leave	
	Not entitled to paid sick leave Did not know	
43	Whether entitled to paid holiday leave in current job	3
40	Entitled to paid holiday leave	3
	Not entitled to paid holiday leave	
	Did not know	
44	Whether first job ever held lasting two weeks or more	2,3,4
	First job ever held	, - ,
	Had worked before	
	Out of work prior to starting job	
	Not out of work prior to starting job	
45	All steps taken to attain a job	3
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Had an interview with an employer	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Registered with other employment agency	
	Checked with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Checked with other employment agency	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards	
	Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
	Other steps	
	Did not take steps to attain a job	
	Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category.	
46	Whether job seeker approached employer	3
	Job seeker approached employer	
	Employer approached job seeker	

47	Whether had prior knowledge that current job was ava	ailable	3
	Had prior knowledge that job or work was available		
	Job Services Australia provider		
	Other employment agency		
	School programs		
	Careers service at educational institution		
	Advertisements in a newspaper		
	Advertisements on the Internet		
	Advertisements on noticeboards		
	Friends, relatives or company contacts		
	Other sources		
	Did not have prior knowledge that job was available		
48	Role of Job Services Australia in job attainment		3
	Job Services Australia helped job seeker to obtain j		
	Job Services Australia did not help job seeker to ob	tain job in any way	
	Did not know		
40	Did not use Job Services Australia in job attainment		405
49	Whether considered starting or purchasing a business	s in the last 12 months	1,3,5
	Had considered starting or purchasing a business		
	Had not considered starting or purchasing a business		
	Had started a business		
	Currently running a business		
50	Reasons for not starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months	1,3,5	
	Lack of finance		
	Lack of infance Lack of experience or skills		
	Lack of opportunity (market strength, etc)		
	Other reasons		
	Had started a business		
	Currently running a business		
	Had not considered starting or purchasing a business		
51	Whether started or purchased a business	4	
	Started up a business	•	
	Purchased a business		
	Both		
	Other (e.g. inheritance)		
52		4	
	Could not find a suitable job with an employer		
	Wanted to be own boss		
	Required/necessary for type of work		
	To employ family members		
	Financial gain		
	Control over working conditions		
	Other reasons		
52A	Main reason for starting or purchasing a business	4	
	Could not find a suitable job with an employer		
	Wanted to be own boss		
	Required/necessary for type of work		
	To employ family members		
	Financial gain		
	Control over working conditions		
	Other reasons	_	
53	All steps taken to find work in the previous 12 months	5	
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for		
	work		
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper		
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet		
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards		
	Had an interview with an employer		
	Contacted friends or relatives Advertised or tendered for work		
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider		
	Registered with other employment agency		
	Checked with a Job Services Australia provider		
	Checked with other employment agency		

Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker Other steps Did not take steps to find work Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category. 54 Reasons for looking for other work while still employed 5 Wanted a change Wanted better pay Wanted better conditions Wanted more hours Other reasons Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category. 5 55A All difficulties in getting another job Too many applicants for available jobs Lacked necessary skills or education Considered too young by employers Considered too old by employers Insufficient work experience No vacancies at all No vacancies in line of work Too far to travel/transport problems Own ill health or disability Language difficulties Unsuitable hours Difficulties with finding child care Other family responsibilities Difficulties because of ethnic background No feedback from employers Other difficulties No difficulties at all Note: Multiple response category. Persons may appear in more than one category. 5 55B Main difficulty in getting another job Too many applicants for available jobs Lacked necessary skills or education Considered too young by employers Considered too old by employers Insufficient work experience No vacancies at all No vacancies in line of work Too far to travel/transport problems Own ill health or disability Language difficulties Unsuitable hours Difficulties with finding child care Other family responsibilities

Supplementary Surveys (Appendix)

APPENDIX 3 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

Difficulties because of ethnic background

No feedback from employers

Other difficulties No difficulties at all

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program and Multi-Purpose Household Survey program collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of labour surveys collected in these programs. Data from these surveys are available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	cat. no.	Frequency	Latest issue
Monthly Population Supplementary Survey			
Characteristics of Recent Migrants, Australia(a)	6250.0	Irregular	November 2010
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	June 2006
Childhood Education and Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 2011
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2013
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2012
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Annual	November 2012
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2013
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2011
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2013
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	November 2008
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(b)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2012
Pregnancy and Employment Transitions, Australia	4913.0	Irregular	November 2011
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2012
Working Time Arrangements, Australia(c)	6342.0	Irregular	November 2012
Multi-Purpose Household Surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	2012-2013
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Biennial	2012-2013
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	2009-2010

⁽a) This product replaces the publication Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia (cat. no. 6250.0).

Quality Declaration - Summary

QUALITY DECLARATION - SUMMARY

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

For information on the institutional environment of the ABS, including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

RELEVANCE

The Job Search Experience (cat. no. 6222.0) publication is the primary ABS data source about the experiences of unemployed people and long-term employed people

⁽b) Data available on request for July 2001 or see Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation, Australia, Apr to Jul 2007 (Re-issue) (cat. no. 6361.0).

⁽c) This product replaces the publication Working Arrangements, Australia (cat. no 6342.0).

in seeking work, and information on employed people who started their current job in the previous 12 months. It provides a comprehensive view of the nature and extent of unemployment, the problems people face in finding a job, and the different steps taken to find a job. For more information on the content and design of the survey refer to Quality Declaration - Relevance.

The Job Search Experience Survey collects information, as at July, on three labour force groups aged 15 years and over:

- unemployed persons;
- employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months;
- persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

TIMELINESS

The Job Search Experience Survey (JSE) is conducted annually as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey. Results from this survey are released the following year after the completion of enumeration.

ACCURACY

Estimates from JSE, including those presented in the publication, are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

JSE was designed primarily to provide estimates at the Australia level. Broad estimates are available for state/territory and capital city/balance, though users should exercise caution when using estimates at this level because of the presence of high sampling errors. Relative standard errors for all estimates in the publication are available in table T2 in the Technical Note of the publication.

COHERENCE

The conceptual framework presented in the publication is described in more detail in Chapters 3 and 6 of Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001). The statistics from this survey are comparable with other labour statistics produced by the ABS.

The ABS has been conducting JSE annually in its current form since 2002. Results of previous surveys on the job search experience of unemployed people conducted in July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991 and annually from July 1992 to July 2001 were published in various issues of Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0). Information on people who had started work for an employer for wages or salary during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week was collected in June 1986 and two-yearly from July 1990 to July 2000 and was published in Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6245.0).

JSE was redeveloped in July 2011 to capture more information on a person's experience in looking for work. See Quality Declaration - Coherence, *Redevelopment of the JSE 2011 survey* for more information.

For the July 2013 survey, all data was collected from any responsible adult (ARA) in the household at the time of interview. The ARA responded on behalf of all people in the household who had taken steps to find work. Prior to 2013, information about job search experience and steps taken to find work was obtained via a personal interview with each relevant person in the household. As a result of this change, there has been no observable statistical impact on the data.

From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collection for the LFS. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via face-to-face or telephone interview. From May 2013, the ABS has commenced the expansion of the offer of online collection to each new incoming rotation group. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

A measurement strategy was used to identify impacts on the LFS data. No statistical impact has been identified to date.

Other changes made to the collection methodology of JSE since 2002 are reflected in relevant publications. For more information on changes to the survey see Chapter 21.4 of Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

INTERPRETABILITY

The Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0) publication contains tables with footnoted data and a Summary of Findings to aid interpretation of the results of the survey. Detailed Explanatory Notes, a Technical Note and a Glossary are also included providing information on the terminology, classifications and other technical aspects associated with these statistics.

Further commentary is often available through articles and data published in other ABS products, including:

- Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) refer to the article archive for past articles.
- Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0) refer to the article archive.
- Year Book, Australia (cat. no. 1301.0) refer to the 'Labour' chapter.

ACCESSIBILITY

The main products from the survey are Data Cubes and a PDF publication Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0), released electronically via the ABS website. Additional data is available on request (subject to data quality). For the list of data items available, see Appendix 2 of the publication. Note that detailed data can be subject to high relative standard errors, and in some cases, has resulted in data being confidentialised.

For further information about these or related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Centre on 1300 135 070 or the Labour Supplementary Surveys Section in Canberra on (02) 6252 7206.

Quality Declaration - Relevance

Content and design

This publication presents detailed information about unemployed people, including steps they have taken to find work, whether they looked for full-time or part-time work and the difficulties they have encountered in finding work. It also presents information about employed people who started their current job in the previous 12 months and persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months. Information about these two populations includes steps taken to attain work and current job details, including occupation and full-time or part-time status of employment as well as whether considered starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months. Demographic information is provided for all three of these groups, including state/territory of usual residence, age, sex, country of birth and level of highest non-school qualification. Information regarding owner managers and employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprise) is also presented in tables.

The survey design information relevant to the Labour Force Survey also applies to the Job Search Experience Survey and other supplementary surveys, with some exceptions for special dwellings. It includes people in both urban and rural areas (excluding very remote areas) in all states and territories. Refer to the Explanatory Notes of the publication for more information.

Unemployed

People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Employed Persons

People aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the fourweek period to the end of the reference week; or
 - o away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or

- on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Quality Declaration - Coherence

Revision of population benchmarks

The Labour Force Survey estimates and estimates from the supplementary surveys, are calculated in such a way as to sum to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. Generally, revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS following the final rebasing of population estimates to the latest five-yearly Census of Population and Housing, or when the need arises. However, the estimates from the supplementary surveys are not normally revised to reflect the latest benchmarks.

From February 2009 Labour Force Estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Revisions were applied to the LFS population benchmarks in December 2012 and May 2013 to take into account the latest available population estimates. The latest revision undertaken in May 2013 is not reflected in the estimates presented in Job Search Experience, July 2013 (cat. no. 6222.0).

Changes to the LFS population benchmarks impact primarily on the magnitude of the Labour Force Survey estimates (i.e. employment and unemployment) that are directly related to the underlying size of the population. For more details on population benchmarks, see the Explanatory Notes in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) and for details about the revisions made, see the articles in the November 2012 and September 2010 issues of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

Redevelopment of the JSE 2011 Survey

In July 2011 the Job Search Experience Survey (JSE) was redeveloped to capture more information on a person's experience in looking for work. This relates to unemployed persons, persons who had been employed for more than a year in their current job, as well as owner managers and their reasons for starting/purchasing a business.

This change has resulted in a break in series for all current population groups:

- unemployed persons;
- employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months; and
- employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises)
 who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

The redevelopment also introduces two new population groups:

• Owner managers who started their current business in the previous

12 months; and

 Persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

Users need to exercise care when comparing data about current populations in the 2011 publication with previous years as data about these population groups have changed.

Changes in Scope

Prior to July 2011, the following persons were included in the JSE survey:

- persons who started working in a new job/business, were still working in the most recently started job at the time of interview and changed employer to start that job; and
- unemployed persons.

From July 2011, in addition to the current LFS and JSE survey exclusions:

- single jobholders who were contributing family workers in their current job are excluded from the survey;
- persons who were employed for more than a year in their current job and were looking for work during the previous 12 months are included in the survey; and
- future job starters (who did not look for work) are included in the survey (estimated at 4,700 persons in 2011).

New data items

As a result of the redevelopment, the following data items are included in the JSE 2011 publication:

- Whether turned down job offer/s (in current period of unemployment);
- Reasons for turning down job offer/s (in current period of unemployment);
- Main reason for turning down job offer/s (in current period of unemployment);
- Whether considered starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months;
- Reasons for not starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months:
- Whether started or purchased a business;
- Reasons for starting or purchasing a business;
- Main reason for starting or purchasing a business;
- Reasons for looking for other work while still employed;
- All steps taken to find other work in current period of employment;
- All difficulties in getting another job; and
- Main difficulty in getting another job.

Changes to data items

The data item 'Whether first job ever held lasting two weeks or more' has been amended to include the population of owner managers.

Persons who had been unemployed for one year or less were asked questions about time spent looking for work. Previously this was not the case. As a result of

this change the data item 'Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months' has changed.

Other changes to the Job Search Experience Survey Include

In 2013:

• All data was collected from any responsible adult (ARA) in the household at the time of interview. The ARA responded on behalf of all people in the household who had taken steps to find work. Prior to 2013, information about job search experience and steps taken to find work was obtained via a personal interview with each relevant person in the household.

As a result of this change, there has been no observable statistical impact on the data.

■ From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collection for the LFS. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via face-to-face or telephone interview. From May 2013, the ABS has commenced the expansion of the offer of online collection to each new incoming rotation group. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

A measurement strategy was used to identify impacts on the LFS data. No statistical impact has been identified to date.

In 2010:

- 'Job Network' was changed to 'Job Services Australia'.
- Centrelink touchscreens are no longer collected.

In 2009:

- a new data item was introduced 'Number of children in family aged under 15 years'.
- survey included people in very remote areas of Australia except for people living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in very remote parts of Australia.

In 2008:

 a new population group was introduced Population 3, 'Employees (excluding OMIEs) who started their current job in the previous 12 months'.

In 2006

- occupation data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupation, First Edition, Revision 1, 2006 (cat. no. 1220.0).
- industry data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0) (cat. no. 1292.0).

In 2004

 computer assisted interviewing was introduced for the Job Search Experience Survey, and was fully implemented in July 2005. The change of interviewing method did not affect estimates in any meaningful way.

Data quality (Technical Note)

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

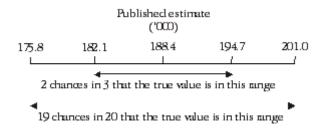
3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 4 shows that 188,400 unemployed females were looking for full-time work. Since this estimate is between 150,000 and 200,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 5,800 and 6,500 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

SE of estimate
$$= lower SE + \left(\left(\frac{size\ of\ estimate - lower\ estimate}{upper\ estimate - lower\ estimate}\right) \times (upper\ SE - lower\ SE)\right)$$

$$= 5,800 + \left(\left(\frac{188,400 - 150,000}{200,000 - 150,000}\right) \times (6,500 - 5,800)\right)$$

$$= 6,300\ (rounded\ to\ the\ nearest\ 100)$$

4 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 182,100 to 194,700 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 175,800 to 201,000. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



5 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **0.2), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%. Table T2 presents the levels at which estimates have RSEs of 25% and 50%.

MEANS AND MEDIANS

6 The RSEs of estimates of mean duration of unemployment and median duration of unemployment are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the mean or median (see table T1) and then multiplying the resulting number by the following factors for Australian estimates:

• mean duration of unemployment: 1.6

median duration of unemployment: 2.5

7 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 4 shows that the estimated median duration of unemployment for unemployed females in Australia was 15 weeks and shows that the number of unemployed females was estimated as 293,900. The SE of 293,900 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 7,600. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate or 7,600/293,900 =2.6%.

- **8** The RSE of the estimate of median duration of unemployment for unemployed females is calculated by multiplying this number (2.6%) by the appropriate factor shown in paragraph 6 (in this case 2.5): 2.6 x 2.5 = 7%. The SE of this estimate of median duration of unemployment for unemployed females is therefore 7% of 15 weeks, i.e. approximately one week. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of unemployment for females that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 13 to 18 weeks and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 10 weeks to 20 weeks.
- **9** Table T2 represents the minimum size of estimates, based on the SE model described in paragraph 2, required to have RSEs of less than 25% and 50% respectively. For example, an estimate of median duration of unemployment for Australia based on less than 35,600 persons will have an RSE of at least 25%, and an estimate of median duration of unemployment for Australia based on less than 12,800 will have an RSE of at least 50%. For all other estimates, (i.e. those estimates based purely on number of persons in a specific category), an estimate of less than 8,800 for the Australian total will have an RSE of at least 50%.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

10 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y:

$$RSE\left(\frac{X}{V}\right) = \sqrt{\left[RSE(X)\right]^{2} - \left[RSE(Y)\right]^{2}}$$

11 Considering the example from the previous page, of the 188,400 unemployed females who were looking for full-time work, 40,500 or 21.5% had been unemployed for one year or more. The SE of 40,500 may be calculated by interpolation as 3,700. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 3,700/40,500 = 9.1%. The SE for 188,400 was calculated previously as 6,300, which converted to an RSE is 6,300/188,400 = 3.3%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(9.1)^2 - (3.3)^2} = 8.5\%$$

12 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of unemployed females looking for full-time work who had been unemployed for one year or more is 1.9 percentage points (=21.5/100) x 8.5). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of unemployed females looking for full-time work who have been unemployed for one year or more is between 20.1% and 23.9% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 18.2% to 25.8%.

DIFFERENCES

13 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

14 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

STANDARD ERRORS

T1 Standard Errors of Estimates

Size of estimate (persons)	NSW No.	Vic. No.	Qld. No.	SA No.	WA No.	Tas. No.	NT No.	ACT No.	Aust. No.
100	360	250	250	190	240	110	50	120	130130.
200	480	320	360	260	320	150	80	200	220110.
300	570	380	440	310	380	190	100	250	310103.
500	700	470	560	380	460	230	120	320	440 88.
700	810	530	650	430	530	270	140	360	560 80.
1,000	930	610	760	490	610	310	170	400	700 70.

1,500	1 100	710	900	580	710	350	200	430	900	60.0
2,000	1 230	800	1 010	640	790	390	220	460	1 070	53.5
2,500	1 350	850	1 100	700	850	400	250	500	1 200	48.0
3,000	1 450	950	1 200	750	900	450	250	500	1 350	45.0
3,500	1 550	1 000	1 250	800	1 000	450	250	550	1 450	41.4
4,000	1 600	1 050	1 300	850	1 050	500	250	550	1 550	38.8
5,000	1 750	1 150	1 400	900	1 100	500	300	600	1 700	34.0
7,000	2 000	1 300	1 600	1 000	1 250	600	350	700	2 000	28.6
10,000	2 300	1 450	1 800	1 150	1 450	700	450	800	2 300	23.0
15,000	2 650	1 700	2 000	1 300	1 650	850	650	1 000	2 700	18.0
20,000	2 950	1 900	2 200	1 450	1 850	950	800	1 150	3 000	15.0
30,000	3 400	2 200	2 500	1 700	2 100	1 250	1 150	1 500	3 350	11.2
40,000	3 800	2 400	2 800	1 950	2 350	1 450	1 450	1 750	3 650	9.1
50,000	4 100	2 600	3 050	2 200	2 550	1 650	1 700	2 000	3 950	7.9
100,000	5 200	3 450	4 200	3 300	3 750	2 400	2 950	2 650	4 950	5.0
150,000	6 100	4 150	5 150	4 250	4 950	2 850	4 050	3 000	5 800	3.9
200,000	7 050	4 850	6 000	4 950	5 950	3 150	5 100	3 150	6 500	3.3
300,000	8 850	6 250	7 650	6 100	7 500	3 650	6 950	3 300	7 700	2.6
500,000	12 400	8 650	10 300	7 650	9 550	4 200		3 300	9 650	1.9
1,000,000	18 400	13 150	14 700	9 750	12 150	4 800			13 600	1.4
2,000,000	24 800	19 450	19 800	11 600	14 100				19 750	1.0

. . not applicable

T2 Levels at which estimates have relative standard errors of 25% and 50%(a)

	NSW no.	Vic. no.	Qld no.	SA no.	WA no.	Tas. no.	NT no.	ACT no.	Aust. no.		
25% RSE											
Mean duration of unemployment Median duration of unemployment All other estimates	15 300 40 600 8 600	7 500 20 300 4 200	10 100 26 700 6 100	5 000 13 900 3 000	7 400 21 200 4 200	2 200 7 900 1 400	700 2 500 500	3 100 9 100 1 800	18 400 35 600 8 800		
50% RSE											
Mean duration of unemployment Median duration of unemployment All other estimates	5 100 13 700 2 800	2 500 6 800 1 400	3 600 9 800 2 000	1 700 4 800 1 000	2 500 7 200 1 400	800 2 800 400	200 800 100	1 200 3 000 700	5 800 12 800 2 300		

⁽a) Refers to the number of persons contributing to the estimate.

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